

REMARKS

Initially, it is noted that the Examiner has rejected independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, because the Examiner believes that there is insignificant antecedent basis for the limitation “the inlet flow path” in the claim. Applicant has amended line 11 of independent claim 1 to require, “an input flow path” as defined between the inlet and the outlet of the eave portion of the roof structure in line 5. As such, it is believed that there is sufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in independent claim 1 and withdrawal of the Examiner’s rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-16 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Grizzle, U.S. Patent No. 6,376,944. In addition, the Examiner has rejected claims 3 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Grizzle ‘944 patent in view of Webber, U.S. Patent No. 4,479,460. Applicant has amended the claims of the present application to more particularly define the invention for which protection is sought. As hereinafter described, it is now believed that all of the claims are in proper form for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Claim 1 defines a generator structure for comprising an enclosure and a roof structure positioned on the enclosure. The roof structure includes a eave portion having an inlet communicating with the ambient air external of the generator structure, an outlet communicating with the interior of the enclosure and an input flow path therebetween. The roof structure also includes an attic portion having an inlet communicating with the interior of the enclosure, an outlet communicated with ambient air external of the generator structure and an exit flow path therebetween. An air flow generator, positioned within the interior of the enclosure, draws ambient air through the input flow path in the eave portion of the roof structure into the interior

of the enclosure. In addition, the air flow generator urges air from the interior of the enclosure through the exit flow path of the attic portion of the roof structure and out of the generator structure. A muffler is operatively connected to the engine within the enclosure. The muffler is positioned in the attic portion of the roof structure within the exit flow path. This, in turn, allows for the muffler (and the engine exhaust flowing therethrough) to be cooled prior to exiting the generator structure. As a result, an individual is allowed closer access to the generator structure during operation of the generator therein than prior generator structures.

The Grizzle '944 patent discloses an electric power generator. The power generator includes a housing with a central compartment holding an electrical generator. The housing further includes first and second side compartments. The first side compartment stores the electric components of the generator. A top covers all three compartments - two side overhangs and a forward overhang. The side overhangs provide inlets to the two side compartments which in turn, permit passage of air into the central compartment. The forward overhang includes an air outlet which allows air to be directed from the central compartment to the outside of the housing. The engine for the generator includes a muffler which is positioned within the central compartment. An exhaust shroud extends about the muffler and prevents the passage of air thereacross during operation of the electrical generator and captures heat therein. This, in turn, increases the temperature of the exhaust discharged by the electrical generator. Further, the shroud about the muffler will capture the heat generated by the muffler within the central compartment, thereby increasing the overall temperature thereof. As such, unlike the generator structure of independent claim 1 wherein the muffler is removed from the central compartment, the cited references disclose an electrical generator contained in the central compartment with a muffler. In this arrangement, the electrical generator may operate at a higher than desired temperature that may reduce the overall efficiency of the electrical generator and cause premature failure of the components thereof. As such, it is believed independent claim 1 that requires the muffler to be positioned in the attic portion of the roof structure within the exit flow path defines over the cited reference and passage to allowance is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-8 depends either directly or indirectly from independent claim 1 and further define a generator structure not shown or suggested in the prior art. It is believed that dependent claims 3-8 are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim and in view of the subject matter of each claim.

Claim 9 defines a generator structure having an enclosure and a roof structure supported thereon. Similar to claim 1, claim 9 requires a muffler operatively connected to the engine. The muffler is positioned within the attic chamber in the roof structure such that the air urged from the interior of the enclosure passes over the muffler prior to exiting the generator structure. As heretofore described with respect to independent claim 1, such a structure is not shown or suggested in the cited reference. As such, it is believed that independent claim 9 defines over the cited reference and passage to allowance is respectfully requested.

Claims 11-15 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 9 and further define a generator structure not shown or suggested in the prior art. It is believed that dependent claims 11-15 are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim and in view of the subject matter of each claim.

With respect to independent claim 16, a generator structure is provided. The generator structure includes an enclosure having first and second generator sets positioned therein. A control structure is provided to operatively connect the output of the alternator of the first generator and the output of the alternator of the second generator. Nothing in the cited reference shows or suggest interconnecting the outputs of first and second generators that is positioned within a single enclosure of a generator structure. As such, it is believe that independent claim 16 defines over the cited reference and passage to allowance is respectfully requested. Claims 18-20 depend from independent claim 16 and further define a generator structure not shown or suggested in the prior art. It is believed that claims 18-20 are allowable as depending from an

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Inventors: Robert D. Kern et al
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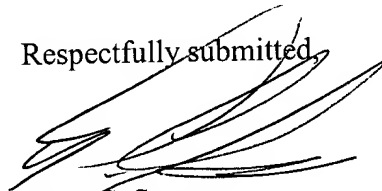
allowable base claim and in view of the subject matter of each claim.

The Examiner has indicated that dependent claim 17 contains allowable subject matter. Applicant has rewritten dependent claim 17 as new independent claim 21. It is believed that independent claim 21 is in proper form for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Applicant believes the present application, with claims 1, 3-9, 11-16 and 18-21 is in proper form for allowance and such action earnestly solicited.

Applicant believes that no fees are necessary at this time. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this or any other communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1170.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter C. Stomma
Registration No.36,020

Dated: 12/31/02
BOYLE, FREDRICKSON, NEWHOLM,
STEIN & GRATZ, S.C.
250 Plaza, Suite 1030
250 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Telephone: (414) 225-9755
Facsimile: (414) 225-9753
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APPENDIX SHOWING CHANGES IN S.N. 09/904,265

1. (Amended) A generator structure, comprising:
 - an enclosure having first and second spaced sidewalls interconnected by first and second end walls so as to define an interior for receiving an engine and an alternator therein;
 - a roof structure positioned on the enclosure and including:
 - an eave portion having an inlet communicating with the ambient air external of the generator structure, an outlet communicating with the interior of the enclosure and an input flow path therebetween; and
 - an attic portion having an inlet communicating with the interior of the enclosure, an outlet communicating with ambient air external of the generator structure and an exit flow path therebetween; [and]
 - an air flow generator positioned within the interior of the enclosure for drawing ambient air through the [inlet] ~~input~~ flow path in the eave portion of the roof structure into the interior of the enclosure and for urging air from the interior of the enclosure through the exit flow path in the attic portion of the roof structure and out of the generator structure[.]; ~~and~~
a muffler operatively connected to the engine, the muffler positioned in the attic portion of the roof structure within the exit flow path.

Cancel claim 2.

9. (Amended) A generator structure, comprising:
an enclosure having first and second spaced sidewalls interconnected by first and second end walls so as to define an interior for receiving an engine and an alternator therein;
a roof structure supported on the end walls of the enclosure, the roof structure including:
an upper panel having a first opening therethrough and first and second sides generally parallel to the sidewalls of the enclosure;
first and second side panels extending from corresponding sides of the upper panel such that each side panel partially overlaps a corresponding sidewall of the enclosure, the first side panel and the first sidewall defining a first inlet therebetween and the second side panel and the second sidewall defining a second inlet therebetween; and
a separation panel extending between the side panels such that the separation panel and the upper panel define an attic chamber therebetween; the separation panel and the first end wall define a first attic inlet to allow the interior of the enclosure to communicate with the attic chamber; and the separation panel and the second end wall define a second attic inlet to allow for communication between the interior of the enclosure and the attic chamber; **[and]**
an air flow generator positioned within the interior of the enclosure for drawing ambient air through the first and second inlets in the roof structure and into the interior of the enclosure and for urging air from the interior of the enclosure through the attic chamber in the roof structure and out of the generator structure through the first opening in the upper panel[.]; **and**
a muffler operatively connected to the engine, the muffler positioned within the attic chamber in the roof structure such that the air urged from the interior of the enclosure passes over the muffler prior to exiting the generator structure.

Cancel claim 10.

16. (Amended) A generator structure, comprising:

an enclosure having first and second spaced sidewalls interconnected by first and second end walls so as to define an interior;

first and second generator sets positioned within the interior of the enclosure, each generator set including an engine, an alternator driven by the engine **and having an electrical output,** and a radiator operatively connected to the engine;

a control structure for selectively connecting the electrical output of the alternator of the first generator set and the electrical output of the alternator of the second generator set;

a roof structure supported on the end walls of the enclosure, the roof structure including:

an upper panel having first and second openings therethrough and first and second sides generally parallel to the sidewalls of the enclosure;

first and second side panels extending from corresponding sides of the upper panel such that each side panel partially overlaps a corresponding sidewall of the enclosure, the first side panel and the first sidewall defining a first inlet therebetween and the second side panel and the second sidewall defining a second inlet therebetween; and

a separation panel extending between the side panels such that the separation panel and the upper panel define an attic chamber therebetween; the separation panel and the first end wall define a first attic inlet to allow the interior of the enclosure to communicate with the attic chamber; and the separation panel and the second end wall define a second attic inlet for allowing for communication between the interior of the enclosure and the attic chamber;

a first air flow generator positioned within the interior of the enclosure for drawing ambient air through the first and second inlets in the roof structure, across the engine of the first generator set and through the radiator of the first generator set and for urging air from the interior of the enclosure through the attic chamber in the roof structure and out of the generator structure through the first opening in the upper panel; and

a second air flow generator positioned within the interior of the enclosure for drawing ambient air through the first and second inlets in the roof structure, across the engine of the second generator set and through the radiator of the second generator set and for urging air from the interior of the enclosure through the attic chamber in the roof structure and out of the generator structure through the second opening in the upper panel.

Cancel claim 17.

Please add new claim 21.

21. A generator structure, comprising:

an enclosure having first and second spaced sidewalls interconnected by first and second end walls so as to define an interior;

first and second generator sets positioned within the interior of the enclosure, each generator set including an engine, an alternator driven by the engine and a radiator operatively connected to the engine;

a roof structure supported on the end walls of the enclosure, the roof structure including:

an upper panel having first and second openings therethrough and first and second sides generally parallel to the sidewalls of the enclosure;

first and second side panels extending from corresponding sides of the upper panel such that each side panel partially overlaps a corresponding sidewall of the enclosure, the first side panel and the first sidewall defining a first inlet therebetween and the second side panel and the second sidewall defining a second inlet therebetween; and

a separation panel extending between the side panels such that the separation panel and the upper panel define an attic chamber therebetween; the separation panel and the first end wall define a first attic inlet to allow the interior of the enclosure to communicate with the attic chamber; and the separation panel

and the second end wall define a second attic inlet for allowing for communication between the interior of the enclosure and the attic chamber;

a first air flow generator positioned within the interior of the enclosure for drawing ambient air through the first and second inlets in the roof structure, across the engine of the first generator set and through the radiator of the first generator set and for urging air from the interior of the enclosure through the attic chamber in the roof structure and out of the generator structure through the first opening in the upper panel;

a second air flow generator positioned within the interior of the enclosure for drawing ambient air through the first and second inlets in the roof structure, across the engine of the second generator set and through the radiator of the second generator set and for urging air from the interior of the enclosure through the attic chamber in the roof structure and out of the generator structure through the second opening in the upper panel; and

first and second mufflers operatively connected to corresponding engines, each muffler positioned within the attic chamber in the roof structure.